

CI 581 Issues in Education
Guidelines for Socratic Seminar¹

- 1) Refer to the text during the discussion. A seminar is not a test of memory. The goal is to understand the ideas, issues, and values reflected in the text.
- 2) Cite reasons and evidence for your statements.
- 3) Read the responses of others carefully and make note of ideas
- 4) Discuss ideas with one another. Focus on the ideas rather than one another's opinions.
- 5) Pose questions in a professional and respectful manner.

During the Socratic Seminar

- suspend judgment
- communicate ideas and assumptions
- explore viewpoints broadly and deeply
- be open to alternative perspectives

¹ Adapted from: http://www.studyguide.org/socratic_seminar_student.htm